

Weather Forecast

Mostly sunny, temperatures around 60 this afternoon, tomorrow. Clear, warmer tonight; lowest about 38.

Temperatures today—High, 55, at 1:30 p.m.; low, 34, at 5 a.m. Yesterday—High, 55, at 2:42 p.m.; low, 34, at 5:02 a.m.

Full Report on Page A-3.

Late New York Markets, Page A-23.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

Guide for Readers

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WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1946—FORTY-EIGHT PAGES.★★★

NATION BRACES FOR COAL STRIKE TONIGHT

More Than 114,000 Miners Idle; D.C. Dimout Decision Tomorrow

No Sign of Action By Lewis Before Deadline Seen

By James Y. Newton

A walkout of most of the Nation's 400,000 soft coal miners was considered a certainty today regardless of what eleventh-hour action John L. Lewis might take about the District Court order designed to head off termination of contract and a strike.

Coal field reports indicated that more than 114,000 miners are idle today. The move was spreading rapidly, and Federal officials here estimated that the figure would be doubled today although Mr. Lewis' deadline for "termination" of the contract is midnight tonight.

There still was no indication that Mr. Lewis would take any action. He might simply ignore the restraining order of Justice T. Alan Goldsborough and face any contempt proceedings that may be brought against him.

Mr. Lewis left his Alexandria home early today and had breakfast at the Carlton Hotel, but afterward his moves were a mystery. He could not be located at either his office or the Carlton, where he spent most of yesterday.

Legal Staff Confers

The mine workers' legal staff, headed by Welly K. Hopkins and William E. Leahy, was in conference but kept nature of their deliberations a closely guarded secret.

Federal legal minds said, however, that several avenues open to the union boss. He could go into court today and ask dismissal of the order. Even if overruled he could appeal, which would probably delay a showdown. In that event it would be up to Justice Goldsborough to decide whether Mr. Lewis had violated his order by not retracting his contract "terminating" notice to Secretary of Interior Krug.

Even should Mr. Lewis comply fully to all intents and purposes to the court order, Federal officials believe a strike is inevitable now. They pointed out that it is now too late to get such word to the remote coal fields. Some doubted that the miners who work a strict "no contract, no work" policy and who are "worked up" over the dispute would obey a last-minute Lewis order.

The miners could strike regardless of action by their officials and in that way keep the "heat" on the Government.

Other Developments

Meanwhile, there were these developments:

1. The Army announced that troops will be ready, if needed, to maintain order. Federal officials said the mines would be kept open for work tomorrow and that protection would be at hand for any miners desiring to work. That, presumably, means the troops.

2. The Government prepared a call to Governor of all States East of the Mississippi for "brownouts" and rationing of electricity and manufactured gas—a move affecting millions.

3. Republican and Democratic lawmakers joined in a rising chorus of demands for labor-management legislation when the new Congress meets January 3. There were scattered demands from members for an immediate special session.

Interpretations Confict

Mr. Lewis' own interpretation of the contract which he signed with Mr. Krug May 29 after the Government had seized the mines is that either he or the Government could terminate it on notice. Mr. Lewis' notice expires at midnight.

Mr. Krug's interpretation is that the contract was intended for the entire period of Government possession and that Mr. Lewis could neither reopen nor end it. The Secretary is solidly supported by President Truman and Attorney General Clark.

It is a real finish fight with the big mass of the miners who so often in the past have caused the Government to retreat and who could not frankly anything could happen.

The Government, however, is fighting a strike with other weapons, too, including the threat to the Government's sovereignty involved in a strike and Mr. Lewis' defiance of Federal authority.

Some officials were concerned that the administration might be in for a long and tempestuous struggle.

One official said privately the feeling in the coal industry was that it might take six months to a year to settle the dispute.

(See COAL, Page A-5.)

Spice Dealers Say Federal Government Profiteers in Pepper

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—Pepper grinders are not under the collar.

They claim the Government seeks to control an excessive profit on 250 tons of Malabar pepper offered by the Agriculture Department to domestic grinders at 75 cents a pound.

The Government bought the pepper in India in March, April and May at 23 cents a pound—the prevailing price at the time.

According to latest reports, the trade did not buy any of the pepper offered, stating that the Government's price was too high.

What Mr. Lewis Wants

The Star learned today that these are the major Lewis contract demands on the Government which precipitated the coal crisis:

1. Increase to 10 cents the present 5-cent "royalty" on every ton of coal mined for the United Mine Workers' welfare and retirement fund. The demand would double the present annual "take" of the fund—raising it to about \$56,000,000.

2. Reduction of the 54-hour work-week of the miners to 40 hours and maintaining 54-hour "take-home" pay.

A miner working the 54-hour week at present receives \$75.25 a week. He receives \$1.18 a hour for 85 hours and time-and-a-half for 19 hours.

The demand would boost the base hourly wage of miners from \$1.18 to \$1.77 or about 50 per cent.

The Labor Department says the average miner worked 42.7 hours a week in August and took home \$62.37.

There were other minor demands, but the above two were the ones which Secretary of Interior Krug held so important to the industry that they should be negotiated only with the mine owners.

Therefore, he proposed a 60-day truce for negotiations between the miners and the operators. Mr. Lewis flatly rejected the proposition.

Mr. Lewis won in negotiations with Mr. Krug last May the 5-cent-per-ton royalty and an 18 1/2 cents-an-hour wage increase. The private operators never have fully accepted the welfare fund idea, as well as other provisions of the Krug-Lewis agreement.

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(See COAL, Page A-5.)

Alpine Air and Land Searchers Fail to Find Crashed Plane

By the Associated Press

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Dispatches from Grenoble said today that air and land parties searching for 11 Americans, including a brigadier general and three officers, who crashed in a transport crash-landed yesterday high in the southern French Alps, had returned to Grenoble and reported failure thus far in the quest.

The rescue crews have found no trace of the plane or its occupants, the Grenoble authorities said. The accounts conflicted with a report of United States Army Air Force officials in Frankfurt earlier, which said two American bomber pilots had spotted the wreckage and circled it to guide the ground parties to the site.

(Aboard the plane was Mrs. Ralph Tate, wife of Brig. Gen. Ralph H. Tate, deputy United States commander in Austria, and mother of the plane's pilot, Capt. Ralph H. Tate, Jr., Gen. and Mrs. Tate make their home at 3214 Ravenswood place, Alexandria, Va.)

The plane went down on a flight from Munich, via Marseilles, to Pisa. The Frankfurt information was that it had been sighted on a 12,000-foot plateau.

A radio message from the stricken craft soon after the crash said five of the passengers were seriously injured. The radio then became silent. Freezing Alpine temperatures caused concern for the victims.

Two United States Army planes which searched all morning for the wreckage, on the basis of bearing reports from the stricken craft, returned to Grenoble this afternoon. Another American plane dispatched from Paris returned to Orly Airfield.

Two French rescue caravans of crack Alpine guides set out during the night for the site also returned to Grenoble after a fruitless quest. They said the transport was not down in the Bardonecchia region, as signaled by radio.

French and American officials dispatched other Alpine patrols to a region a few miles farther south near the mountain village of Saaze di Gesana, about 20 miles due east of Briancon. French mountaineering clubs throughout the area have been alerted.

(See PLANE, Page A-5.)

Leaders to Meet; B. & O. to Take Off 23 Trains Sunday

WASHINGTON MUNICIPAL hospitals report good coal supplies, but private institutions have only small amounts. Story on page A-2.

A general meeting of District businessmen, Federal officials, representatives of public utilities and other interested groups will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow in the District Building to survey the city's coal stocks and determine whether to order a dimout here, Commissioner Guy Mason announced today.

Meanwhile, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad disclosed discontinuance of 23 coal-burning passenger trains, effective at midnight Sunday. This was the first announcement of curtailment of service by any carrier since the Government order directing a 25 per cent reduction of passenger service on coal-burning trains.

In announcing tomorrow's meeting, Mr. Mason warned that if the coal strike becomes effective at midnight tonight "we may have to take some pretty drastic steps."

William H. Press, secretary of the Board of Trade, was directed by Commissioner Mason to organize the meeting. A short time later the board announced that invitations were going out to leaders in the fields of amusements, welfare agencies, hotels, restaurants, hospitals, radio stations, newspapers, colleges and universities, churches, labor organizations and others.

May Seek Governor's Aid. If the city is forced into dimout regulations similar to those put into effect during the walkout of the miners last spring, Mr. Mason said notification would be sent to the Governors of Virginia and Maryland in the hope of getting their co-operation, particularly in the case of nearby consumers of District electricity.

The Commissioner explained that the District obtains its coal for city agencies through the procurement division of the Treasury, which he said as of yesterday had only 40,000 tons in its stockpile for both Federal and District use.

Among those being asked to the meeting tomorrow are Public Buildings Administrator W. E. Reynolds; A. G. Neal and J. H. Ferry, president and vice president of the Potomac Electric Power Co.; Marcy Sperry and Everett R. Roebby of the Washington Gas Light Co.; and E. D. Merrill, president of the Capital Transit Co.

A committee headed by Col. Kenneth E. Madsen, Assistant Engineer Commissioner, was meeting today to discuss a redrafting of last spring's dimout order, to be used in the event such action is found necessary.

Will Drop Commuter Train. A. B. & O. official said the passenger service curtailment will mean elimination of a commuter train between Brunswick, Md., and Washington.

He stressed, however, that no curtailment of main line service between Washington and St. Louis, New York and Chicago was contemplated. These trains are pulled by Diesel locomotives.

Other B. & O. trains to be eliminated for the period of the emergency growing out of the coal miners' strike include Washington to Philadelphia, Cincinnati to Washington, Pittsburgh to Buffalo, Cincinnati to Toledo and Cumberland to Grafton, W. Va.

Officials are confident that arrangements for carrying 2,500 midshipmen from Baltimore to Philadelphia will be made.

(See RAILROADS, Page A-5.)

Manila Trial Lawyers Protest to Patterson

By the Associated Press

MANILA, Nov. 20.—Fifteen of 24 American civilian lawyers defending Japanese war crimes suspects here protested today to Secretary of War Patterson that "gross maladministration" is preventing fair trials for the accused.

The protest said several lawyers resigned as a result and returned to the United States at their own expense. Mark T. Smith of Jersey City, N. J., declared before embarking that he resigned because conditions both on and off duty preclude a fair trial.

A recent official report of an investigator for United States Army Forces, Western Pacific, confirmed defense attorneys' charges that their pay quarters and transportation are inferior to those provided prosecution lawyers, who are responsible to MacArthur's command.

It said a 21-by-27 foot room provided for a staff of 35 lawyers and investigators is "totally inadequate."

The 15 petition signers told Mr. Patterson they were subjected to "disrespectful, degrading treatment and inadequate working facilities, billeting and transportation. Terms of your contract are brazenly violated."

They told reporters that prosecutors were favored over defense attorneys in many ways and were paid an average of \$2,000 more a year; that prosecutors have personal jeeps which they can use for pleasure whereas the defense has only three for official use, and that rulings in cases reversed by review boards are available only to the prosecution so the prosecuting attorneys can avoid reversible errors but the defense is "kept in the dark."

(See TRIAL, Page A-5.)



Greece Will Request U. N. Investigation Of Border Battle

By the Associated Press

ATHENS, Nov. 20.—The Foreign Office announced today that it would appeal to the United Nations for investigation of Greek border fighting as a week-old battle in the Skra-Notia sector saw saw-sawed across a connecting mountain road and hit-and-run raids continued at other points.

An army spokesman at Salonika said the "invaders" had been driven from Skra and Notia, but that fighting continued outside the towns. He said advancing troops found the bodies of 21 soldiers around Notia military headquarters and fixed the number of guerrilla dead at 12.

Gendarme Chief Killed. The spokesman quoted refugees from embattled villages in the area as saying "Communists" in those communities had joined with the attacking bands in the fight against the army.

The government press office in Athens said a strong band had attacked Mouries Village, near the junction of the borders of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece, and had killed the gendarme chief and one gendarme and set fire to freight cars loaded with merchandise.

(Moscow radio broadcast a report that the guerrilla movement in Northern Greece was "rapidly spreading to the south, embracing the Pindus Mountain Range, which divides Greece in half.")

It reported that a band of guerrillas raided an arms dump at Ternavos November 10, held the town for three hours and then "retreated without having suffered any losses."

Troops to Move by Sea. The government disclosed plans for moving troops from Southern Greece to the northern battle areas by sea and stated that a passenger vessel already had been chartered to carry soldiers to Salonika.

The Foreign Office said its appeal to the United Nations would be made as soon as the Greek U. N. delegation advises Athens the best procedure to follow.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the request most likely would be forwarded any time.

(See GREECE, Page A-8.)

Chest Volunteers Carrying On As Drive Is Extended a Week

By the Associated Press

Volunteer workers in the Community Chest Federation campaign today continued their efforts to reach the goal of \$4,200,000 after the drive, which was scheduled to end yesterday, was extended a week.

Only 71.84 per cent of the goal was reported yesterday, at the last scheduled report, making it "obvious," according to Daniel W. Bell, campaign chairman, "that the drive must be extended."

He announced a report luncheon meeting would be held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Mayflower Hotel. All units are expected to make their final reports then.

Total contributions reported yesterday were \$2,428,226, making a total to date of \$3,017,285. Pledges have been received from 289,194 persons for an average gift of \$10.43, which is about one dollar less than the average gift last year.

At yesterday's meeting, Mr. Bell also read the following statement: "Many factors have delayed the campaign. Some of them are known to you. I want to speak of one which has not previously been discussed."

"Some months ago voices were raised in the Central Labor Union against the appointment of a campaign leader who was considered an opponent of union labor. I at once replied in the following letter:

(Mr. Bell then read a letter he sent to Joseph Z. Lins, secretary-treasurer of the Columbia Typographical Union, on August 29, explaining the position of the Chest Federation in regard to choosing its own campaign leaders.)

"The matter was discussed in several meetings and on October 23 the Executive Committee of the Central Labor Union sent a letter to all the AFL unions asking that contributions be made to the Community Chest Federation as usual, with the

(See CHEST, Page A-8.)

More Than Half of GI Trainees Face Income Cut Next Month

VA Also Halts Payments to 149,046 Who Failed to Report on Earnings

Between 50 and 65 per cent of the veterans taking on-the-job training will suffer a cut in income beginning next month as a result of the new ceiling on subsistence allowances-plus wages, H. V. Stirling, Veterans' Administration education chief, estimated today.

At the same time, Mr. Stirling announced that 149,046 veterans in school and training will get no checks next month because they failed to report their earnings to VA by November 5.

In this region, which includes Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and the District, 14-

654 veterans—or 10 per cent of those in training—will receive no checks next month.

As soon as they report their earnings, Mr. Stirling said, the checks will be sent out to them. He emphasized that veterans in school who may have ignored the notice from the Veterans' Administration because they were not employed outside school hours will lose their checks, too, unless they turn in a report.

The estimate of 50 to 65 per cent of veterans facing more permanent income cuts is the highest yet given on the results of the law passed in August limiting the amount veterans can earn and get from the Government.

(See VETERANS, Page A-8.)

Red-Dominated Bloc Takes Wide Lead in Romania Vote Count

By the Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania, Nov. 20.—The Communist-dominated government bloc took a wide early lead over the opposition today in first returns from the Romanian parliamentary election, as each side accused the other of irregularities.

Returns from five prefectures gave the government bloc 155,552 of the National Peasant Party, 41,235; the National Liberals, 3,229; the Independent Socialists, 1,514; the Magyar Popular Union, 63,974 and the National Peasant Democrats, 9,483. No calculations were available of the number of seats won in these prefectures.

90 to 95 Per Cent Vote. The Interior Ministry estimated that from 90 to 95 per cent of the country's 8,000,000 voters had participated in the balloting yesterday.

The American Military Mission in Bucharest was picketed last night after 5,600 Romanian citizens appeared to protest that their names had been omitted from the voting register. Brig. Gen. Courtland Van Rensselaer Schuyler, head of the mission, who identified the pickets as supporters of Premier Petru Groza's Communist-dominated government, protested the picketing.

Three opposition parties—National Liberal, National Peasant and National Peasant Democrats—were also picketed.

Charges Are Unsupported. The committee, headed by C. Max Farrington, director of men's activities, yesterday heard the veterans' side of the story from Don Rothenberg, 22, president of Chapter 341.

Although three of the five officials who sat in judgment on Mr. Rothenberg were also members of the Student Life Committee, which last Friday unanimously recommended the expulsion of the AVC leaders, they nevertheless concluded the charges made then could not be substantiated.

Dr. Marvin said the investigating committee "reported that there is not sufficient substantiation against any student or students to warrant further action."

"Hence," he said, "the recommendations to expel any students are dismissed."

Political Activities Ruled Out. "However," the statement concluded, "the recommendation of the reviewing committee is accepted that use of facilities of the university be denied any political group, since it has been demonstrated that it is impossible to disassociate the name of the university from the action of last summer."

(See AVC, Page A-5.)

Five Albanians Reported Given Death Sentences

By the Associated Press

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Nov. 20.—A dispatch of the Albanian Telegraph Agency said last night that a Tirana military court had imposed death sentences on five of 10 persons convicted of sabotaging the Lake Malik drainage canal project in Southeastern Albania last summer.

Two were ordered shot and three, one of them a woman, hanged, the dispatch yesterday reported. Two other defendants drew sentences of life imprisonment, the report said, and three others 10, two and one-year terms.

(See ALBANIA, Page A-8.)

Russians Ready To Give Data On All Troops

Accept U. S. Proposal To Reveal Forces at Home and Abroad

By the Associated Press

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., Nov. 20.—Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov announced today that Russia was ready to accept an American proposal that all members of the United Nations submit complete figures on all troops both at home and abroad.

He declared that Russia and the United States were in complete accord and added that Russia was ready to draft agreements to carry out the proposal which originally was made in the U. N. Assembly by Warren R. Austin, head of the American delegation.

At the same time the United States called on all members of the United Nations to lay "all cards" on the table and make complete reports on the numbers of their troops, both at home and abroad.

Favors Public Information. Without formally accepting a double-barreled proposal by Mr. Molotov on the troop reports question, Senator Connally declared the United States agreed that complete information on troop dispositions should be made public.

Senator Connally and Mr. Molotov spoke before the 54-member Political Committee of the United Nations Assembly, which was called into session to debate a Soviet proposal asking information on Allied troops and bases in non-enemy territory.

"If it is the view of the committee that these reports have value, the United States is prepared to furnish the information," Senator Connally said. "We think all cards should be laid on the table. We think that the Soviet Union should go beyond this resolution and have a report on all troops throughout the world—whether in Russia proper, in border states or anywhere."

New Russian Proposal. Mr. Molotov withdrew the Soviet proposal that all U. N. members report on troops and bases